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## ARIZONA SENTINEL.

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YUMA, ARIZONA

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POSSIBILITIES OF YUMA  
REGION UNFATHOMEDThe Soil Simply Marvelous in Its  
ProductivenessThe Climate is Intoxicatingly  
SalubriousBY GEORGE N. BURTON,  
In Los Angeles Times.It is very far from a semi-millennium since  
three little open boats under the flag of Spain  
first touched the waters of the western hemi-  
sphere and revealed the new world to the  
eyes of Europeans. It is only a little over a  
century since the United States of America  
sprang, so to speak, like Pallas Athena from  
the brain of Jove, a completely armed ad-  
dition to the family of nations. It is but  
little over half a century since California be-  
came a part of these United States of America,  
and less than a generation since the settle-  
ment of the Great Southwest began.In all the 125 years since the Republic was  
founded, also in the half century since Cali-  
fornia became one of the States of the Union,  
and during every year of the last thirty, a re-  
alization of the vast riches of the American  
continent, of the territory of the United  
States and of this Great Southwest has been  
more and more astonishing to the minds of  
men. One would suppose that by today we  
knew pretty thoroughly what the undeveloped  
resources of the Great Southwest might  
reasonably be expected to become. We have  
not reached the depths of this great ocean of  
wealth with our plummet line yet.In a residence of forty years on the Coast  
the writer thought he knew a little about  
what there is on the Coast, and as most of  
these years have been spent in and around  
Los Angeles, he naturally had a little con-  
cept of what was pretty well acquainted with  
the Great Southwest. Last week a trip to the  
Colorado River bottom, below Yuma made  
him feel as a tenderfoot who had come in, on  
the last train. New to him, this wonderful  
region and its possibilities are pretty well  
known to a great many readers of The Times  
by the stories published, if not by the demon-  
stration of their own eyes.Yuma lies on the map just twelve miles  
from where the government is putting in the  
great Laguna dam, at the confluence of the  
Gila and Colorado rivers. It is twelve miles  
from Yuma down the river to the Mexican  
boundary line on the Arizona side of the river.  
At one point, just below Yuma, the interna-  
tional boundary line runs up along the river  
which takes a westerly trend and from  
Yuma to Mexico is only a few miles.

## ONCE A MIGHTY STREAM.

Ages ago when the mountain ranges of  
Arizona and California towered toward the  
skies, at least twice as high as they do now,  
rivers were very frequent and came down in  
torrential volumes all along these mountain  
ranges. The Colorado River in these past ages  
was a mighty stream, sweeping down debris  
in tons every second of its flow. The Colorado  
sank was at that time a great inland sea,  
which spread over the country on both sides  
of where the river now runs. As the erosion  
of winds and storms, landslides and glaciers  
were down the mountain ranges, it is twelve miles  
from Yuma down the river to the Mexican  
boundary line on the Arizona side of the river.  
At one point, just below Yuma, the interna-  
tional boundary line runs up along the river  
which takes a westerly trend and from  
Yuma to Mexico is only a few miles.As the mountain tops were worn down, the  
rivers became less frequent and less volumi-  
nous, but the erosion of rocks and river banks,  
the trees and vegetable mould from the  
banks still came down and settled into the  
bottom of the great inland lake. This geologi-  
cal process went on from age to age to our time,  
leaving the Colorado at Yuma a stream about  
half a mile wide and being at the present  
about twenty feet deep in the deepest portion.It is not necessary to remind Californians  
that the Spanish missionaries and explorers  
called this river the Colorado because of the  
reddish color of its waters. It is the Colorado  
up in the Grand Canyon in Arizona and  
down past The Needles. But at this time of  
the year, after passing the mouth of the Gila,  
instead of the red river it becomes the brown  
river. It actually looks today as if ten per  
cent of its flow was silt and only ninety per  
cent water.

## RICHERS OF SOIL WONDERFUL

But the object of this story is to call atten-  
tion once more, and for perhaps the thou-  
sandth time, to the riches of the soil along  
the Colorado on both sides, incident to the  
depositing of this mass of debris during all  
the past ages. Going through the country  
on the Arizona side of the river, for several  
miles below Yuma, one encounters the same  
type of country and soil that is found in the  
Imperial Valley country around Brawley,  
Calcutta and other points west of the river.  
The fertility of the black prairie soils of Illi-  
nois has astonished people engaged in agri-  
culture for nearly one hundred years. The  
fertility of the valleys of the Nile has been a  
matter of history for at least 3000 years. Those  
who are familiar with Illinois prairie soil,  
and those who know what the valley of the  
Nile is for agriculture, know that this lower  
Colorado River region surpasses both of them.If you ask a farmer along this stretch of  
country if the soil is six feet, his eyes will  
open with astonishment at your ignorance.  
He will tell you no one knows whether it is  
60 feet, 600 or 6,000 feet deep. It is practically  
without limit. It is so thoroughly well  
mixed with sand, disintegrated granite and  
other rocks that it never breaks. It is as  
easily worked as a heap of ashes, and re-  
sponds to cultivation in a way that is mar-  
velous.

## CUT SEVEN CROPS YEARLY.

Arizona has established an experiment  
station in the heart of this big valley, which  
is some twenty-four miles long, and in spots  
to twelve miles wide, down on the lower  
level. The results are wonderful. Last week  
they were cutting a crop of alfalfa on this ex-  
perimental farm, and for seven consecutive  
months they will cut succeeding crops. The  
only months when the crop is not cut here are  
December and January.Cotton and tobacco grow with the greatest  
luxuriance, and this rich alluvial soil will  
be used in a very few years as the ideal spot  
in the whole country for dairying, hog raising,  
the production of poultry and vegetables, which  
one hesitates to call early or late, as they  
will be perennial. New potatoes will be pro-  
duced in the middle of January, tomatoes will  
be ripe by the first of March, ripe grapes will  
be gathered in the early days of May, and ap-  
ples by the middle of the same month. Chick-  
ens and turkeys flourish there in the winter  
time beyond all experience anywhere else.  
The rainfall is exceedingly light, and comes  
only three or four times in a whole winter.  
With an abundance of green alfalfa and vege-  
tables the dry and not overheated climateprevailing in the winter months, chickens are  
free from the disease that makes their raising  
difficult elsewhere. There is no spot in South-  
ern Illinois or Missouri so adapted to the pro-  
duction of corn as this valley along the Color-  
ado River. With alfalfa and corn, the butter,  
cheese, eggs, poultry and pork to be raised on a  
twenty-acre farm will amaze those who have  
the experience in American agricultural affairs.The winter climate around Yuma is a thing  
so intoxicatingly salubrious that no words can  
describe it. Those deserts of America, as we  
have regarded them heretofore, seem to defy  
the idea that human nature elsewhere is so  
prone to contract and suffer from. The atmos-  
phere is as dry as punk, the skies cloudlessly  
clear, the air mild as possible, and every  
breath seems to be an inspiration of new life.  
The United States has an experiment farm on  
the mesa just on the outskirts of Yuma. Here  
its even more marvelous than in the valley  
are produced. Down on the lower levels there  
are little bits of frosty mornings occasionally  
during December and January, but on the mesa  
the breath of frost never touches the most deli-  
cate vegetation. Oranges grown at the Fed-  
eral experiment station are unsurpassed in their  
delicious quality.Yuma is a busy, up-to-date town. The more  
modern improvements consist of several blocks  
of attractive brick buildings, a three-story post  
office building, also of brick, and many other  
nice structures. Among some of the greater  
improvements which are being made, are a  
\$65,000 school building, a \$75,000 ice plant, a  
fine club-house for the railroad employees, a  
larger passenger depot, and the probability of  
a new court house to cost \$75,000. There is con-  
siderable business done there, but the people  
have not begun to awaken to the vast possi-  
bilities of the place. They should at once erect an  
up-to-date tourist hotel. It should have ample  
grounds around it and be planted with all  
kinds of tropical vegetation. If atmosphere  
were only transportable like mineral waters,  
and one could send consignments of this Yuma  
winter air to the East, the inspiration of its  
health-giving qualities would bring 25,000  
tourists every winter to the banks of the Color-  
ado River.Yuma needs only to make known its climate  
attractions in the parts of the East except every  
year by blizzards and snowstorms to attract a  
city full every winter. The fertility of the val-  
ley below will almost make itself known with  
out effort on the part of the people. But with a  
valley full of intelligent and industrious rural  
population, producing fruits and vegetables,  
poultry, eggs, fresh milk and fragrant butter,  
Yuma should be one of the most delightful  
winter resorts in all America. There is every-  
thing there to furnish tourists with, the most  
healthful and delicious food, and if the air in  
that region does not drive doctors to seek a  
living elsewhere, it will be because the people  
do not know how to live properly.The Laguna Dam will be completed in 1909,  
and in ten years from today the attractions of  
Yuma as a health resort and the fertility of  
these bottom lands will be so well known that  
it will require \$1,000 in cash to buy a single  
acre of it.

## OFFICIAL MINUTES

Of the Proceedings of the Board  
of Supervisors of Yuma  
County, Arizona.Office of Board of Supervisors,  
Yuma County, Yuma, Arizona,  
July 27, 1908.Board of Supervisors of Yuma  
county met at 10:00 a. m., pur-  
suant to adjournment; all mem-  
bers district attorney and clerk  
present, minutes of July 14, 1908,  
were read and approved, all  
members voting aye.The clerk is hereby ordered to  
advertise for election supplies  
for the general election to be  
held on November 3rd, 1908;  
bids to be opened August 22nd,  
1908.On motion board adjourned to  
meet at 2 p. m. August 3, 1908.  
H. H. Donkersley,  
Chairman.  
J. M. Polhamus, Clerk.Office Board of Supervisors,  
Yuma County, Arizona, Aug.  
3, 1908.Board of supervisors of Yuma  
county met at 10 a. m. pursuant  
to adjournment, all members,  
district attorney and clerk pres-  
ent; minutes of July 27, 1908,  
were read and approved, all  
members voting aye.Resignation of N. T. Tregear,  
justice of the peace for Kofa  
precinct No. 7, was received, ac-  
cepted and ordered filed.Resignation of J. A. Ketcher-  
side as county superintendent of  
health of Yuma county, Arizona,  
was received, accepted and or-  
dered filed.Application of Henri ApJohn,  
M. D., and letter from the repub-  
lican central committee recom-  
mending Henri ApJohn, M. D.,  
to the office of Yuma county su-  
perintendent of health, were re-  
ceived and ordered filed.T. J. Pugh, M. D., was nomi-  
nated by Supervisor J. H. Shans-  
sey, Henry ApJohn was nomi-  
nated by Supervisor H. H. Donk-  
ersley. Roll was called and the  
following vote was had: Super-  
visors Donkersley and Kent vot-  
ed for Dr. Henri ApJohn and  
Supervisor Shanssey for Dr. T.  
J. Pugh. Dr. ApJohn receiving  
a majority of the votes cast, he  
is hereby declared elected to the  
office of county superintendent  
of health of Yuma county, Ari-  
zona, to fill the vacancy causedby the resignation of J. A. Ketch-  
erside, M. D., said term of office  
to expire July 10 1909, at an an-  
nual salary of three hundred  
dollars, payable quarterly, and  
five dollars per day when actu-  
ally and necessarily engaged as  
such county superintendent of  
health.The following communication  
was received from the county  
superintendent, to-wit:  
Office of the Probate Court of  
Yuma county, Yuma, Arizona,  
June 16, 1908.To the Hon. Board of Supervi-  
sors, Yuma, Arizona.  
Dear Sirs:I herewith transmit a petition  
for the creation of a new school  
district to be known as the Bouse  
school district No. 26, with bound-  
aries as follows, to-wit:Beginning at a point five miles  
north of the A. & C. depot at  
Bouse, thence west five miles,  
thence south ten miles, thence  
east ten miles, thence north ten  
miles, thence west five miles to  
point of beginning.The petition shows they have  
twelve census school children  
now residents of the proposed  
school district, and I hereby ap-  
prove the said petition, with the  
recommendation that your hon-  
orable body establish the said  
district on these lines, or such  
lines as the board may determine.

Respectfully yours,

Joseph H. Godfrey,  
Supt. of Schools.The school superintendent ac-  
companied said communication  
with a legal petition signed by  
the parents of twelve children of  
school age residing within the  
boundaries of the proposed new  
school district, and it appearing  
necessary to the board, and  
by unanimous vote the following  
resolution creating and establish-  
ing said new school district was  
passed:Resolved, that there is hereby  
created and established school  
district No. 26, with boundary  
lines as follows:

[Continued on Page Two]

## Aged Pioneer Dead.

Chas. O. Brown, Who Came to  
this Country Before Arizona  
Was Organized, Passes Away.A resident of this section for  
sixty-two years, Charles O.  
Brown passed away in Tucson  
last evening at his residence No.  
38 West Broadway. He was prob-  
ably the best known of the early  
pioneers and enjoyed the distinc-  
tion among the Americans of  
having lived longest in this coun-  
try. His death was due to an  
abscess of the brain.Funeral services will be held  
over the remains at 3 o'clock to-  
morrow afternoon from the resi-  
dence.It was in 1846 that Mr. Brown  
came to Arizona. At that time  
Arizona and New Mexico were a  
part of Mexico, the Gadsden  
treaty not having been negotia-  
ted. Although but a stripling,  
he had already seen much of  
frontier life, having left his home  
in Whitehall, Ill., to which the  
family had moved from New  
York when a boy of 12.He was in the employ of the  
Mexican government and was  
sent to Fort Yuma in 1846 in  
company with Capt. Glanton. At  
that early time there was a con-  
siderable settlement at Yuma,  
and the town possessed an or-  
ganized force of defenders and a  
stockade. Shortly after arriv-  
ing, Mr. Brown, with Glanton,  
established the first ferry across  
the river. Travel along the  
southern trail into California was  
rushing in 1849-50, and the ferry-  
men prospered greatly. In 1850  
there were rumors of an Indian  
uprising. Mr. Brown heeded  
the warning and obtained per-  
mission to go to San Diego. A  
short time after he left the Yu-  
mas and Cocopalas murdered  
every white man in the settle-  
ment save one, who chanced to  
be down the river. Of the fundsaccumulated, Mr. Brown took  
with him a large amount in sil-  
ver, but a jar containing \$80,000  
in gold was buried along the  
river bank and is supposed not  
to have been recovered to this  
day.—Citizen.

## TERRITORIAL LEVY 75 CENTS.

Arizona's territorial tax levy  
remains the same for 1908 as it  
was in 1907, the Territorial Board  
of Equalization, which has about  
completed its labors, fixing the  
rate at 75 cents on each \$100  
worth of property.Within the next few days the  
board will make a public report  
of its decision on several assess-  
ment matters that have been  
taken up during the past few days.

The territorial levy of 75 cents

is apportioned as follows:

General fund, par 3881, R	
S., 1901.....	\$ .115
Interest World's Fair	
bonds, act 103, Laws	
1891.....	.002
Sinking fund, redemption	
World's Fair bonds....	.008
Interest, St. Louis Ex-	
position bonds, act 86,	
Laws 1901.....	.002
Asylum for the insane,	
interest fund.....	.0015
Capital interest fund....	.007
Interest fund, organic	
law of Arizona.....	.06
Six per cent funding	
bond redemption fund	.0175
Asylum for the insane	
fund, Laws 1907.....	.06
Asylum for the insane	
improvement fund....	.034
Territorial Industrial	
school fund.....	.34
Territorial Industrial	
school improvement	
fund.....	.0115
Prison fund.....	.0735
Prison building fund....	.042
Ranger fund.....	.04
Territorial school fund..	.03
Tempe Normal school	
fund.....	.054
Tempe Normal school	
building fund.....	.04
Northern Arizona Nor-	
mal school fund.....	.0235
Northern Arizona Nor-	
mal school dormitory	
fund.....	.0235
University fund.....	.044
University building fund	.27

Total territorial tax levy \$0.7